(PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) The Anthropological Survey of India has not appointed any Editor. The Survey has appointed only one Consultant for compiling the bibliography of the People of India Project. This Consultant is a retired Librarian of the Survey and no serving employee can be employed as a Consultant. Thus, the question of ignoring the qualified staff does not arise.

(b) and (c) The anthropological Survey of India has signed agreements with both Seagull Books and the Oxford University Press, with the first for the publication of seven volumes of the monographs on the tribes of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and with the second for the publication of 35 volumes on data generated under the People of India Project.

This is primarily because the publication division of the Survey is not sufficiently well-equipped to undertake such voluminous work.

The Seagull Books was selected because, of all the publishers in Calcutta, the Seagull Books offered the best terms.

The Oxford University Press was selected because of its high reputation for good editing and its excellence of printing and publication, to do justice to the People of India Project.

The Seagull Books has already published four out of the seven titles. No manuscript has yet been handed over to the Oxford University Press because the material is still in the process of being transferred to the computer.

Neglect of Buddhist ruins at Lalitgiri and Ratnagiri

872. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that historical Buddhist ruins at Lalitgiri and Ratnagiri in Orissa are lying in a State of neglect; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to protect the same and develop the said places for tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे रह रहे लोग

873. डा० अबरार अहमद खान: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जब नई सरकारों ने 1977, 1980, 1984 तथा 1989 में कार्यभार संभाला था तब कितने शिक्षित व्यक्ति गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे रह रहे थे तथा इस संबंध में राजस्थान की स्थिति क्या थी; और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने गरीबी के उन्मूलन के लिए कोई कदम उठाया है अथवा कोई योजना बनाई है, यदि हां, तो इसके द्वारा गरीबी का उन्मूलन कब तक कर लिया जाएगा ?

प्रधान मंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क) गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे रह रहे शिक्षित व्यक्तियों की संख्या का अलग से आकलन नहीं किया गया है

(ख) गरीबी उन्मूलन के लिए कई कार्यक्रम जैसे एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम, जवाहर रोजगार योजना, अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के लिए विशेष कार्यक्रम आदि गरीबी दूर करने के लिए कार्यान्वित किये जा रहे हैं । सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में यह उपेक्षा की गई थी कि सन् 2000 में गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जीवन-यापन कर रहे लोगों का प्रतिशत अनुपात घटकर 5 प्रतिशत रह जायेगा ।